

PERTH COMMON GOOD FUND COMMITTEE

16 June 2021

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Report by Depute Director (Communities)

(Report No. 21/88)

The report asks Perth Common Good Fund Committee to consider applications for financial assistance for 4 small grants and for 2 capital grants.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Perth & Kinross Council owns land and property which forms part of the Common Good of the former burghs in Perth and Kinross and has a statutory duty in terms of section 15 of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 to administer this land and property “having regard to the interests of the inhabitants” of the former burghs. This duty also applies to the administration of the associated Common Good Fund.
- 1.2 Local residents and organisations can apply to Common Good Funds for support to develop projects in the Common Good area. These grants allow individuals and local organisations to carry out a wide range of community-based activities. Retrospective applications are not accepted. However, if an application is received before the project takes place and cannot be considered at the following meeting because papers have already been issued, the application will be considered at the next meeting even if the activities have taken place. Therefore, the Committee decision will only be known after the activities have taken place, and if the grant is not awarded, the applicant will have to fund the activities from its own funds.
- 1.3 Applications to Common Good Funds vary across the different former burghs of Perth and Kinross. The Perth Common Good Fund is larger and receives a much higher number of applications than the other Funds. Therefore, additional criteria are applied to assist with assessing applications (see Appendix 1).
- 1.4 The 2021/22 Budget for the Perth Common Good Fund was approved at the Committee meeting on 28th April 2021 (Report 21/54 refers). A summary of the approved Financial Assistance budget, committed grant funding, and the budget remaining, is provided below:

2021/22 Financial Assistance Budget	
Small Grants	£60,000
Capital Grants	£40,000
Value of grants committed	
Small Grants	£1,110
Capital Grants	£17,000
Remaining Financial Assistance Budget	

Small Grants	£58,890
Capital Grants	£23,000
Value of awards under consideration	
Small Grants	£8,998
Capital Grants	£13,725

2. SMALL GRANTS

Buttons & Bows Baby Bank

- 2.1 Button & Bows Baby Bank is seeking a grant of £3,000 to support pilot sessions that will be delivered from the 'Muirton Food Share'. These sessions are already set up and running successfully via the 'Tulloch Net Project' and this grant will cover the costs of expansion. The applicant will be providing free baby essentials mainly benefiting families with children between the ages of 0 and 4 years who are experiencing financial difficulties. The initiative will also encourage increased community engagement for the Baby Bank and provide an opportunity for the parents to gain information on other support available to them. Funding would allow a 3-month trial session, estimated at a total cost of £3,224.

	£
Purchase of Baby Food, Nappies, Wipes and Toiletries. The estimate is based on current demand at Tulloch with additional allowances for an expected increase in demand at Tulloch once Covid restrictions are lifted, and for the new pop up session in Muirton.	1,600
To acquire surplus baby/toddler clothes, equipment/items when needed to supplement those donated	700
Additional storage boxes (30 x £6.99)	210
6 volunteers will be sought to assist at new baby bank sessions. A volunteer policy has been produced. Contribution to travel expenses of £60 per month for 3 months	180
Publicity – 2,000 A5 leaflets and 200 A4 posters	200
Stationery supplies – paper, ink etc	40
Locked Filing Cabinet or box	50
Shelving & Clothes rails/hangers	244
Total	Total £3,224

- 2.2 The project will be promoted by face to face/email to representatives of these support agencies detailing project aims and criteria. Marketing will also be covered via Facebook & targeted leaflet drops.

- 2.3 The project is scheduled to start in July 2021 in the Muirton Food Share project, in partnership with Letham4All. A session is currently successfully being delivered in partnership with Tulloch Net at the Community Hub, helping 41 families to date (38 of whom are from the Common Good area). Various other local businesses including Perth North Church, People with a Mission Ministries, Perth Food Bank and a few key retailers have already made donations. A small grant from the Arnold Clark Community Fund is pending and general fundraising events are in planning. This project has not previously applied for Common Good funding.

Consideration

- 2.4 In line with criteria 9.8, the Committee is asked to consider the request and determine the level of any grant to be awarded.

Perth Beach Volleyball Club

- 2.5 This project is to establish and develop beach volleyball as a higher participation sport for people of all abilities, ages, gender and backgrounds at the sand-court at Darnhall Tennis Club. It is hoped it will become an integral part of the Perth Volleyball scene with coaches, match officials and participants all being developed and should help improve local residents' physical activity, health and wellbeing. The project will be led by the Perth Club, with support from members of the Scottish Open Volleyball Tournament who have experience, certified coaches and players. A development pathway will be inclusive, competitive and long term can have an international reach. It is thought it will also develop teamwork, problem solving and leadership skills in younger participants. The start date for the project is August/September 2021 and has a total proposed cost of £1485.25 to cover the purchase of equipment, i.e. nets, posts and volleyballs. Common Good are asked to fund the full amount.

Specific Items	Basis of Costing (eg. Quote, hire cost, hourly rate, etc)	Amount (£)
2 Nets (Huck 22 metres length)	Catalogue no. 5030 @ £7 per metre	£308.00
4 Volleyball posts (3.5 metres height)		£500.00
25 beach training volleyballs	Mikasa VXL 30 – Amazon @ £27.09 each	£677.25
Total Proposed Expenditure		£1,485.25

Initial target audience will be 'upper' primary pupils of Craigie, Moncrieff and Inchview Schools along with secondary pupils from Perth High School and Perth Academy and students from Perth College. Up to 3000 young people from Perth could benefit from this initial project. It is planned to be a free activity for children, with a particular emphasis on those eligible for free school

meals. Other funding secured already from CORRA has paid for security measures and waterproof court covers. No other fundraising has yet been planned and this group have not previously sought Common Good funding.

Consideration

- 2.6 In line with criteria 9.8, the Committee is asked to consider the request and determine the level of any grant to be awarded.

St Matthew's Church, Perth

- 2.7 To celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the opening of St. Matthew's Church on Tay Street, Perth the Church propose to run events and open up their facilities for their congregation and the general public. The Church estimates that 2100 people will be involved in the events, with around 80% coming from the Common Good area. The events will be designed to support recovery and renewal for the local people of Perth after Covid. The project will continue for a full year starting with an Anniversary Service on 21st Nov 2021 and include a number of events and initiatives

- Buffet lunch and event for invited guests
- Church sessions led by past ministers of St. Matthew's
- Christmas Fair and a Summer Gala Day
- Church opened up to general public to visit, use the café and facilities and find a place of comfort and refuge.
- A History of the 150 years of the building will be printed and published
- Exhibitions including a "Lockdown Exhibition" where members of the community will be invited to contribute. This will coincide with the Perth Open Doors Weekend.

- 2.8 Total cost is £7,212.62 (breakdown below), with £4,000 coming from donations, fundraising, Gala Day & Christmas Fair. Common Good is asked to cover the remaining £3,212.62. Volunteering from church members is to be encouraged and an 'in-kind' value of £10,000 has been allocated for the full year.

Item	Cost
Piper	100
Printing 150th year History of church	516
Community lockdown exhibition	200
Promotional Banners	145
Promotional Badges	160.80
Promotional Stickers	94.82
Advertising and stationery	200
Catering for opening service	1296
"Thank you", dinner and entertainment evening	4500
Total	£7,212.62

Consideration

- 2.9 It is considered that a grant of £2,885 is consistent with Criteria 9.2.

3. CAPITAL GRANTS

St Johnstone FC Supporters Social Club

- 3.1 This grant application is for the installation of a disabled toilet in the social club, so that all patrons have the appropriate facilities for their needs. The club currently has just under 500 members, of which 98% are from the Common Good area. The club anticipate that they can increase their membership and attract a wider range of other users of their facilities through the provision of a disabled toilet. Part of the club's proposal involves opening up the facilities to the public, while the premises are in operation. Planned install dates are 5 – 19 July 2021 and total cost is estimated to be £6,901.

Consideration

- 3.2 It is considered that a grant up to £1,725.25 is consistent with Criteria 10.4

Aberdalgie Outreach Programme (Aberdalgie & Forteviot Church)

- 3.3 This application is to support the continued development of an all-age community greenspace, activity centre and events venue for the fast-growing population of South West Perth and existing rural residents within Almond and Earn. It will offer outdoor services, prayer, meditation areas, respite and health & wellbeing benefits for all ages. It is estimated that 1,844 residents of the parish, live in the Common Good area, which is 71% of the total population of the parish. The project will also celebrate the heritage and archaeology of Aberdalgie with guided tours and the revival of the annual Aberdalgie fete. The project will bring families together, connecting them with their environment, education in nature and will also help combat loneliness by offering activities to those who live alone. Volunteering will also be encouraged in the community garden. In all, a large event space for inter-generational events. Various forms of written support from 6 PKC councillors, 2 community councillors P&K Heritage Trust, Tayside Biodiversity Initiative, local garden associations, Dupplin Estate, Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme, all available on request.

- 3.4 First phase was 100% covered by self-fundraising events securing £81,200. Total remaining cost is estimated at £53,800. Applying the 71% population figure, indicates an eligible total cost of £38,200.

- 3.5 Further grants achieved/pending for remaining phase are as follows: £10,000 from PKC Community Environment Challenge Fund; £23,625 from Scottish Government; and a further two grant applications will be determined by the end of May. The Church is seeking £12,000 from Perth Common Good Fund.

Consideration

- 3.6 It is considered that a grant of up to £9,550 is consistent with Criteria 10.4.

4. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 The Committee is asked to consider and approve the recommendations in the report.

Author

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Approved

Name	Designation	Date
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1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Strategic Implications	Yes / None
Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement	Yes
Corporate Plan	Yes
Resource Implications	
Financial	Yes
Workforce	No
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	No
Assessments	
Equality Impact Assessment	Yes
Strategic Environmental Assessment	Yes
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	Yes
Legal and Governance	None
Risk	None
Consultation	
Internal	Yes
External	None
Communication	
Communications Plan	None

1. Strategic Implications

Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement

- 1.1 The proposals will contribute to the Community Plan's aim of safe, healthy and inclusive communities and the outcome of communities will have improved quality of life. The recommendations contained within this report are in accordance with the priorities of Perth Common Good Fund's criteria for financial assistance.

Corporate Plan

- 1.2 The proposals will contribute to the Corporate Plan's objectives of developing educated, responsible and informed citizens and the outcome of people are ready for life and work. The recommendations contained within this report are in accordance with the priorities of Perth Common Good Fund's criteria.

2. Resource Implications

Financial

- 2.1 The Head of Finance has been consulted and has indicated agreement with the proposals. The recommendations contained within this report will be funded from the 2021/22 Financial Assistance budget. The Reserves of the

Perth Common Good Fund may reduce if the Financial Assistance budget is exceeded.

3. Assessments

Equality Impact Assessment

- 3.1 Under the equality Act 2010, the Council is required to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between equality groups. An equality impact assessment needs to be carried out for functions, policies, procedures or strategies in relation to race, gender and disability and other relevant protected characteristics. This supports the Council's legal requirement to comply with the duty to assess and consult on relevant new and existing policies.
- 3.2 The function, policy, procedure or strategy presented in this report was considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) with the following outcome: No further action is required as the items summarised in the committee report do not require further assessment as they do not have an impact on people's wellbeing or equality protected characteristics.

Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 3.3 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a legal requirement under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 that applies to all qualifying plans, programmes and strategies, including policies (PPS). The matters presented in this report were considered under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 and no further action is required as it does not qualify as a PPS as defined by the Act and is therefore exempt.

Sustainability

- 3.4 Under the provisions of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 the Council must discharge its duties in a way which contributes to the achievement of sustainable development. In terms of the Climate Change Act, the Council has a general duty to demonstrate its commitment to sustainability and the community, environmental and economic impacts of its actions. The proposals in this report will encourage social equity and opportunities for cultural, leisure, community, sport and other activities.

4. Consultation

Internal

- 4.1 The Head of Finance and the Head of Legal and Governance have been consulted.

2. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 2.1 3 applications for financial assistance.

3. APPENDICES

3.1 Appendix 1 – Perth Common Good Fund Criteria.